



The Guardian

VOLUME 38, Issue 11 November 2007

Coming Soon..... to a Bus Near You



SPOG is taking our message to the streets. During the month of November, Metro buses will be displaying signs that will inform the citizens of Seattle that our members continue to work without a labor contract.

Our current contract expired on 12/31/06

GENERAL CONTRACT INFORMATION

- In the spring of 2006, SPOG conducted a membership survey and we received over 65% participation. We used that feedback to shape our proposal offers to the city.
- We first met with the city in June 2006
- SPOG Negotiation team members are: Sergeant Rich O’Neill, Sergeant Roger Dixon, Officer Tom Umporowicz, Sergeant Ty Elster, Officer Johney Stevens, as well as Chris Vick and Jeff Julius from Aitchison & Vick.
- City Negotiation team members are: Mike Fields (city labor relations), Mark McCarty (human resources), Deputy Chief John Diaz, and Assistant Chief Jim Pugel. The city has sometimes been joined by an attorney from the city’s law department.
- Between June 2006 and August 2006 we met with the city for 5 sessions. SPOG then

- filed for mediation in August 2006. From August 2006 to October 2007 we have met for 27 mediation sessions.
- Both sides provided the mediator with formal written proposals. Both sides are prohibited from adding any new items/issues to the offers, once they are submitted.
 - Among the long list of items being discussed are: wages, medical benefits, patrol shifts and staffing, and disciplinary issues.
 - Only the mediator can certify both sides for binding arbitration. If that happens, both sides will begin preparing their respective cases for the arbitration hearing. During this period the city and SPOG can continue to meet and could settle a contract anytime before the arbitrator rules on the case. Once the arbitrator rules, the decision is binding.

For more detailed contract info and timely updates, log onto the SPOG website at www.seattlepoliceguild.org

How Bad is it Really?

This was recent feedback offered by a potential SPD recruit.

Officer [REDACTED]

I regret to inform you that I will be pulling my application for the position as a Seattle Police Officer. I have spoken at length with my wife and we have decided that we cannot manage with such a large reduction in pay. I was scheduled [REDACTED]

Again I appreciate all of the support and I know that your team will find lots of good candidates.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

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The **Guardian**

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Seattle, WA 98134

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Local #7877

The Guardian

**Official publication of the
Seattle Police Officers' Guild**
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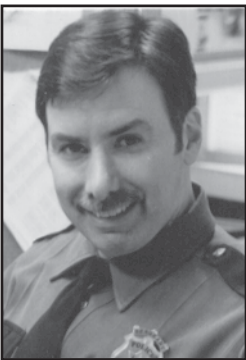
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The Guardian is the only official publication published monthly by and for the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

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Call (206) 767-1150 for information

President's Message

By Sergeant Rich O'Neill, SPOG President



Back in school I always enjoyed it when a teacher did a “review,” especially right before a big test. For this month’s message, here is a review on some issues.

In terms of contract negotiations, I have to report that there is no progress. If anything, we have gone backwards to the starting point. We first met with the city in June 2006, a full six months before the contract expired in December 2006. We have been in mediation with a state appointed mediator since August 2006. We last met with the city on October 3rd and there was zero progress. Both sides agreed to cancel all of October’s sessions. As I write this article, we have nothing scheduled for November. It is frustrating and disappointing. The city has a staffing crisis and can’t find enough interested recruits to help with the problem. They acknowledge this! There is no denying that we are near the bottom of our west coast comparables. Even local cities are snatching potential recruits and experienced officers away from us because they offer them a better salary and benefits. This new generation of recruits get their information from the internet. Like President Bush, “They enjoy working the Google on the internet machine.” The information is out there for all to read. How do our recruiting officers counter this information? They can’t counter it and thus the recruits go elsewhere. What is also out there for recruits to read is the fact that Seattle NEVER settles a contract with the police guild before the contract expires. The city always lets the contract expire and then slows the negotiation process to a snail’s pace. Last contract, we went two years without a deal. This time we are rapidly approaching the one year mark with no end in sight. How will it end this time? Someone in city government is going to have to exercise some real leadership and tackle this problem head on. If that does not happen, we will be heading towards binding arbitration for the first time since the 1980’s. It is sad that in a city ruled by democrats who always court the big labor vote, the city’s largest labor union is treated like this. How many experienced officers have to leave and how many good recruits do we have to lose before someone steps up and corrects the problem?

Officer-involved shootings is another topic up for review. Last month we had an officer who was faced with a situation that no one wants to experience. He stopped some individuals around 3a.m. who were running from him and acting suspicious. Within seconds, one of the individuals threw off his coat in an aggressive manner and while yelling at the officer, reached into his waistband where the officer noticed a dark object. The officer repeatedly ordered the individual to show his hands. One of the individuals complied while the other one continued to reach for the dark object in the waistband. Fearing for his life and believing this object was a gun, the officer drew his weapon and fired. The individual was struck in the leg. Both individuals turned out to be teenagers. The dark object was a cell phone. One of them had common sense and one acted like a fool! Who keeps a cell phone in their waistband and what would possess someone to reach for it at 3 a.m. when an officer says, “Let me see your hands?” What was disgusting was the reaction from our local cop bashers...The NAACP. Because the suspect was part Filipino and was in a “neighborhood of color” they felt they needed to comment. Instead of using this as an opportunity to teach “youth” that they should always obey the orders of a police officer when stopped, they used this as an occasion to once again pull the race card. The suspect’s father even joined in and felt it was more important to criticize the officer’s actions than to reprimand his son for being out at 3 a.m., up to no good, and for disobeying a police officer. Now comes the part that no one in the press will mention to show the STUPIDITY of the race argument. The officer, although white, comes from a “family of color.” The officer’s wife and child are Hispanic and his step-dad is African American. Mr. Bible and the NAACP should issue a public apology to the officer and should refrain from dropping the “race card” before they know all the facts! I was with the officer that night and I saw the look in his eyes. This was the last thing he wanted to do. He truly believed that he was about to be shot. The officer did absolutely NOTHING WRONG and will be back on patrol very soon!

Speaking of officer-involved shootings, I want to remind all officers of their rights when they are involved in such a situation. As soon as the shooting occurs the involved officer should notify their supervisor and render aid if necessary. A Guild Rep should be called to the scene. Once that happens, the involved officer should talk to NO ONE, until the officer has an opportunity to speak with his/her attorney. Let me clarify who I mean by NO ONE.....that includes everyone except the attorney who will be summoned by the SPOG Rep and who will respond to the scene. The officer should not speak about the details of the shooting to ANYONE until he/she talks to the attorney. Let’s review...what about my Sgt.? NOPE....what about my partner?....NOPE.....what about the Duty Captain?....NOPE...how about the Homicide Captain...NOPE...what about a Chief?...NOPE! What if they just want me to do a “walk-through?”...NOPE! Witness officers should conduct the “walk-through” with the homicide detectives and answer all of their questions. What if there are no witness officers? Should the involved officer conduct the walk-through?....NOPE, not until the attorney says it is okay. You need to protect your constitutional rights! The attorney will ensure that you only give a statement after you have been properly ordered to do so under the rights afforded to you by the U.S. Supreme Court in Garrity vs. New Jersey! Once you have been properly given your Garrity Order, the attorney will advise you to cooperate fully and will assist you with your statement. No one outside of an SPD supervisor can give you a Garrity Order. That includes other police agencies and the FBI! This is not anything new. The Garrity case has been around since 1966 and it has been upheld many times by the courts. Do not let anyone tell you that Garrity does not apply. Take your advice from your attorney! There are NO EXCEPTIONS! Just because you wear a badge does not mean you give up any constitutional rights! On the subject of officer’s rights, perhaps the creators of the next promotional exam can include, *The Rights of Law Enforcement Officers, 5th Edition, by Will Aitchison.* It should be required reading for all police supervisors and anyone in city government who has dealings with the police guild and labor issues!

I’d like to discuss all the chatter about the new patrol boundaries and the new squad alignments, and hopefully put some rumors to rest. As part of the Neighborhood Policing Plan, the department is realigning the squads and changing the patrol boundaries and districts. The department cannot change the work hours or the shift configuration without bargaining. The current 4 and 2 schedules with the nine hour days are here to stay until a new contract deal is reached. (Re-read my first paragraph for when that will happen.) I have been assured by the top brass that no one will be moved from their current watch against their wishes. This includes sergeants. The department may ask for “volunteers” to go to other watches, but no one is obligated to volunteer. The shift hours will remain as they currently are set until new hours are successfully negotiated. SPOG and the city have not come close to reaching any agreements on new shifts! If anyone hears anything that contradicts this, please notify me at the Guild Office immediately.

I have learned that the new report forms are worsening the staffing crisis. Reports that use to be 4 pages are now 12+ pages and take more time to complete. So instead of having more officers on the street, we have more officers huddled around precinct desks completing paperwork. The new system was designed to be “paperless” but until the lap-tops are issued and everyone is trained we are stuck with this tedious paper log jam. I’m not sure who decided that we should implement the new system before the lap-tops were issued, but we need to make sure that we do not skip any boxes or rush through any incident. Handle each call one at a time, so that you will not be accused in OPA of Failing to Take Appropriate Action. If the report requires you to stay after your shift ends, be sure to complete an overtime slip! Hey, maybe that wasn’t such a bad decision!

This is the month to give thanks. Thank someone when they help you get home safely!

To My SPD Friends and Colleagues

By Sergeant Jim Laing, KCSO

I hope you are never involved in a shooting during your career. It is extraordinarily stressful, not only for you, but especially for your family. The investigation, shooting review board, seeing the Department shrink (it's mandatory) all take their toll. If you are involved in a shooting that results in the death of a suspect you will get to sit through an Inquest. In King County an Inquest is required by law anytime there is a death involving the actions of a member of any law enforcement agency.

The Inquest in my case was 9 months after the fact. The delay is caused, I am told, by a scheduling problem with the courts and the prosecutor's office. This burdensome delay only creates additional stress and discomfort for you and your family since the situation you are trying to put behind you resurfaces anew. In addition, the fact that Sheley Secrest represented the family of the deceased was, in my view, bizarre to say the least. To me it showed an appalling lack of judgment. I could not fathom why she would take part in a proceeding involving an SPD investigation and cross-examine SPD detectives. She is a member of the OPA Review Board after all and

this, at least to the ordinary and reasonable man, seems in conflict.

But I'm really writing this to thank the guys who handled my shooting. They did a superb and impartial investigation yet I was treated with respect, compassion and empathy. My sincere thanks go to Tag Gleason, Bob Valor, Al Cruise, and Russ Weklych. And to Brett Rogers who stayed with me at the scene as the investigation unfolded. You guys are the best! After my experience I can say without any doubt that SPD Homicide is a class act.

And to Ron Smith, thank you for your very kind words in the last issue of *The Guardian*. I'll be hanging it up at the end of January 2008. Man, the time has gone by way too fast-it's really hard to believe it's been almost 39 years. Yet I'll be leaving with some terrific memories and great friendships. Ron, you are one of those friends. Thanks for being there. There is only one thing I'd like to clarify in last month's article, the Sheriff's Office did offer me the Sheriff's Star which is one step down from the Medal of Valor. I declined the honor for personal reasons.

Do you have an upcoming IIS Interview?
Contact SPOG now to schedule a rep!
206-767-1150 or online at www.seattlepoliceguild.org

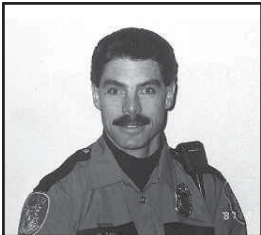
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Appreciation: Take it to the Bank!

By Detective Tina Drain, Missing Persons

Almost everyone I know in law enforcement spends a lot of time and money planning for their families, their children, and their retirement. It is quite inexplicable then that so many of us stop short when it comes to planning our wills. My husband Dale and I were among that group. So when we saw the opportunity to get a will via *The Guardian* article, we decided to finally do what we had talked about doing for years. We have three children. We really didn't want all that work for so many years to go through the sticky fingers of the government before going to our own family.

Here is what the experience was like. I promise there is no embellishment of the facts: Our appointment was at 9 AM at Starbucks headquarters at SODO. We were welcomed in the lobby by three friendly people. One of them escorted us to one of the corporate floors. The first thing she did was take us to a young barista who told us he would make us any coffee drink we wanted. After that, we were shown a table that was filled with scones, muffins, fruit, water, and more coffee. We hadn't even been seated when an attorney came to get us.

She brought us to a room where a clerk was waiting with a laptop. The attorney told us that she was not a will attorney, but was a corporate attorney for Starbucks who had been trained on how to do a simple will. We went over all the information while the clerk typed everything into the computer. The whole meeting took about 45 minutes to an hour. By then, we had each determined our power of attorney, living will instructions, executor, guardian, any bequests, and our distribution of assets. We were then brought back to the waiting area while the will

was being printed. We were told that all the information would be destroyed as soon as the will was printed. We were told it would be only a few minutes.

We waited for over an hour. We learned it was because there were problems with the printer (not their fault). I asked a few questions of some of the people involved with the program while we waited. I was told that everyone there was volunteering. I was also told that the program was available for ANY law enforcement or firefighter and the appointments were all filled and there was a waiting list. And that this has been done before and will probably be done again.

Another person came and got us and brought us to a room with three people, all witnesses. We went over the forms again and signed them in front of the witnesses. We were given very specific instructions: 1) Do not take the staples out of the document (if making copies), 2) Do not write anywhere on the document and 3) Take it to somewhere very safe like a safe deposit box at the bank. That was it. In three hours (delayed an hour by the printer problem) we had a will. This was fast, painless and even pleasant. When we left, I felt a huge burden lift from me and felt so grateful to all those involved in making this great opportunity happen.

One final thing: As we were getting ready to leave, I said, "Thank you for everything you did for us today" and one of them replied: "No, thank you for everything you do for us everyday."

Appreciation; something you can take to the bank.

Officer of the Month

By Officer Christopher Hall, West Precinct

The SPOG Officer of the Month for October 2007 is Sergeant Jay Shin of the East Precinct, as nominated by Officer John Skommesa for his arrest of a bank robbery suspect. On September 17th Sergeant Shin was driving his patrol car in the 300 block of Broadway East when he observed a male leaving a bank and got that funny feeling. The male had a large wad of cash in his hand, and as he walked away, a red plume of smoke started flowing from the money. Sergeant Shin realized what had happened, so he stopped the male and arrested him. About that time, the alert tones came out of the bank robbery. 21 seconds after the call came into 911, the suspect was in custody and a few minutes later bank employees positively identified the suspect as the robber. An excellent job!

Also nominated this month:

Officer Nick Evans of the South Precinct nominated Officers Brett Grieve, Sean Moore, Brian Lisle, Steve Stewart and Chuck Stewart for their response and arrest during a rape investigation. On September 2nd, Officers Grieve and Steve Stewart responded to call of a rape at Jose Rizal Park. They were able to get a basic description and vehicle description from the victim who had been told she would be killed if she told anyone. Officers Moore and Lisle were on scene and observed a vehicle that fit the description approach the scene and quickly leave the area. Officers Moore, Lisle and Chuck Stewart stopped the vehicle and detained the driver who fit the

description. The suspect was positively identified and arrested for rape.

Officer Tom Henshaw nominated Sergeant Michael Pugel of the Audit and Procedures unit. "While this nomination has nothing to do with a single incident, it does have to do with [Sergeant Pugel's] continuous high degree of 'Service, Pride and Dedication' that he has exhibited since transferring to the Audit and Procedures Unit." Officer Henshaw notes that Sergeant Pugel volunteered for this position as a new challenge and "embraced it with the dedication of an elite athlete, the professionalism of a military general and the enthusiasm of a graduate student." Further, Sergeant Pugel is updating the unit's software, which will allow patrol officers to access data relating to "the statistical analysis of police overtime relating to crime increases/decreases as it pertains to contractual agreements of police services within the delineation of the duties and responsibilities of professional and legal practices." This new software will reduce the time needed to research compliance with CALEA standards by 28% and lower Department overtime costs by 37%. "This is equivalent to adding 13 patrol officers to both Operations Bureau 1 and 2." Officer Henshaw, and I am sure all SPOG members, would like to wish Sergeant Pugel good luck as he seeks the nomination of the Secretary of the CALEA National Board of Directors where he can show other agencies how to "Do it the SPD Way!"

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SPAA December Meeting

By Buzzy Katzer, SPAA President

Season's Greetings!! The Seattle Police Athletic Association (SPAA) will convene for our regular December monthly meeting on 12/5/07 at Chinook's Restaurant at Fisherman's Terminal, located at 1735 W. Thurman Street. The doors will open at 1100, and there will be a brief business meeting beginning at 1145. Attendance to this luncheon/meeting is open to sworn SPD SPAA Members, active and retired. As in the past few years, due to budget constraints, guests will have to run their own bar tab. SPAA will pay for lunch and non-alcoholic beverages. Seating might become a problem, so please RSVP with any SPAA Board Member if you plan to attend. Board members are: President Buzzy Katzer, SW Precinct; VP Ann Martin, East Precinct; Treasurer Mary Ann Unger, Traffic; John Bernasconi, Motors; Butch Cason, Motors; Paul Kloss; Motors; Bill Waltz, South Precinct; A.C. Torrescano, Range; Tami McClincy, Range and Don Skaar, North Precinct.

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to **spoguardian@yahoo.com**

National Champions

By Detective Carma Clark, Employment Services



(L-R) KCSO Sergeant Michelle Bennett, SPD Detectives Carma Clark, Michelle Hackett, and Kim Bogucki show off the hardware!

During the last Labor Day Weekend, Seattle Police Detectives Kim Bogucki, Carma Clark, Michele Hackett and King County Sheriff Sergeant Michelle Bennett brought home a national championship at the Gaelic Football National Tournament. The women are all members of the Seattle Gaels, Seattle’s only women’s Gaelic football team. Four grueling games were played over 3 days at the tournament, which was held in Chicago. The Gaels, led by tournament MVP Kate Starbird, played against teams from Orange County (CA), Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Atlanta. The first game versus Orange County was fun and served as a good introduction to tournament play for Seattle’s numerous rookies, while the second game against Pittsburgh was very physical.

Despite the first two games’ very different tones, however, Seattle won both games handily. The semifinal game against Philadelphia was by far the Gaels’ toughest. The defending national champions were stiff competition and the game was very close, but the Gaels were victorious with a final score of Seattle 4-5 to Philadelphia 1-11 (which translates to 17-14). The championship game against Atlanta was fast-paced and fun. The Gaels jumped ahead early and kept the lead throughout. The core of the team has been together for 10 years and this was the first national championship in team history. I’d like to thank those that stuck with the team for so many years, and our generous sponsor Dr. Donna Bevan-Lee.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On August 17, 2007 at 1000 hours Phil (Serial #1287) and Sally Cruse and John (Serial #2060) and Marge Larson were driving through North Bend, WA. We stopped to eat breakfast at Kens Truck Stop. We noticed two men sitting at one of the tables, also eating breakfast. One of the men was wearing a grey t-shirt with SPD written in small letters. We stopped to ask if the SPD meant Seattle Police Department and were told it did. We then identified ourselves as retired SPD officers and had a short conversation with them.

After our conversation we were seated at a table nearby and we ate our breakfast. When the men got up to leave the restaurant they both came over to our table and shook hands with us. We commented to ourselves what nice young men they were and how lucky SPD is to have such great officers as that.

At the end of our meal the waitress came to our table and said, “I can’t give you a check because those men who were at the other table have already paid for your meals.” It is no understatement to say we were amazed. These officers did not know us, but yet they decided to pay for our breakfasts simply because we were retired officers. What a truly wonderful brotherhood we belong to as members of the Seattle Police Department.

We don’t know the names of the two officers, but we would like to find out who they are so we can personally thank them. One of the men had a shaved head and he mentioned that he was born in 1962. They mentioned that at one time they had worked in the South Precinct under Les Liggins.

-Phil Cruse and John Larson

50th Anniversary of Parking Enforcement 1957 -2007

In Celebration of this event
There will be an Open House of
the Parking Enforcement Section
on
November 30th
4PM until 8PM
All are Welcome to join us in this
celebration

There will be displays of photos over the years, old uniforms and up to date uniforms and new job duties.

Refreshments will be served

For more details please contact the Parking Enforcement Section at
208-386-9012

GRAM CHRISTMAS PARTY

Date: Saturday, December 15th
Time: 1200-1600 hours
Location: SPD Pavilion at Police Range

Schedule of Events:
Arts and Crafts; a Magician; a Clown; a blow-up Bouncer; two Face Painters; Child I.D. Booth; and the arrival of Santa from the North Pole!
Santa’s helpers needed for: Stocking stuffer party on Thursday, December 13th at 1800 hours at the SPD Pavilion; and day of the event in staffing the various booths. Also needed are yummy cookies for the day of event.
For more information about the event, contact Mary Ann Unger or Tami McClincy via department e-mail.

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How Many Cops Do We Need?

By Officer Mike Severance, Board Position #5

Last year, a member of the City Council suggested we increase the authorized strength of SPD by 250 officers over the next five years. The full Council, in their wisdom, slightly modified that idea. They authorized 10 more officers in 2007 and 20 more in 2008. The Mayor wants 105 additional officers hired by the end of 2012 if there is enough money, and by the end of 2017 if there isn't enough money. The Chief wants 150 more officers over the next five years. The Council, the Mayor, and the Chief haven't got a chance of meeting their goals unless SPD becomes much more attractive and competitive in many areas, not the least of which is salary. The City brags that SPD is nationally accredited. The Department is using our national accreditation in recruiting commercials. It's time to show that national accreditation means something more than a plaque on a wall in the Chief's office. Compared to our 7 comparables, we are third from the bottom in salary. Our #1 comparable, San Jose PD, has a starting salary that is 49% higher than SPD. Do you think the cost of living in San Jose is 49% higher than Seattle? Fourth from the bottom in salary and one step ahead of us is Sacramento PD. To bring us to immediate parity with them would require a 12.2% raise. But that parity would not last very long as Sacramento officers get a 5% raise in 2008. According to the Northwest Federation of Community Organizations, the "living wage" for a family with two adults (one working) and two children in the state of Washington (not Seattle which would be much higher) is an hourly rate of \$23.04. The hourly rate for a new SPD officer is \$22.76. No wonder we can't fill our pathetic recruiting quotas.

What about city council member salaries in Seattle and our comparables? The Seattle City Council is #1 in salary. Seattle's council members are paid 14.4% more in salary than the next highest paid city council which just happens to be San Jose, CA. How do those poor politicians in San Jose survive? Council member Drago stated, "You get what you pay for" when she and her cohorts became #1. Based upon the current Council's stellar record of being able to recognize real priorities and their uncanny ability to get things done, maybe it's time we followed their example and gave them what they are paying for. Let's give every citizen 100% on every call instead of rushing things so we can get to the next call, which has already been holding for hours. If response times increase, too bad. Every citizen deserves 100% when we do finally show up. Response times are going to increase anyway when we start using the new report forms. I think report writing time (officers' time off the streets) will skyrocket. That's to be expected when you turn what use to be a 4-page report into a 24-page report.

By way of comparison, what are some progressive cities doing? Houston PD will spend an additional \$24 million (on top of the more than \$40 million a year they already spend) on police overtime over the next three years (mostly for emphasis patrols), and they are hiring an additional 500 officers over the next three years. Phoenix PD has budgeted \$8.4 million for their air unit of 7 helicopters. They are planning to buy 2 more. The average response time to a call for one of their choppers is 54 seconds.

Let's get real. How many cops do we really need? There is a standard used since before I joined SPD to determine if staffing is adequate. It's a number that is the ratio of total sworn personnel to every 1,000 people in the population. That number use to be meaningful when most, if not all, law enforcement agencies assigned at least 50% of their sworn personnel to uniformed patrol duties and the response to calls for service. That is no longer the case, and the problem with that ratio in today's world is that it does not change whether an agency has one officer or a thousand officers assigned to uniformed patrol **AND** responding to 911 calls for service. While agencies such as SPD may play the paper game, with many officers assigned to Patrol on paper even when they don't work Patrol, the key is how many officers are handling the calls. Boots on the ground is the bottom line. The old ratio is pretty meaningless today. It's time for a new standard such as the ratio of uniformed officers responding to calls for service to every 1,000 people in the population. Under the current standard, Seattle is a more than respectable, but meaningless 2+. Under what I suggest as the new standard, Seattle is a pitiful 0.76. I think that under this suggested standard, a ratio of 1.6 should be the minimum acceptable number.

I'm going to use a very simple system to suggest how many uniformed officers we should have on the street responding to 911 calls for service. Between 1969 and 1971 SPD had about 540 uniformed patrol officers responding to calls for service. Almost all those officers were in two-officer cars. Those officers were able to handle the call load and still be pro-active. They were credited with a 15.7% decrease in overall crime (1971 SPD Annual Report), the largest such **REAL** reduction during my career. Based on a recent count from the Precinct roll call sheets, we now have 447 uniformed patrol officers responding to calls for service. Almost all these officers are in one-officer cars. These officers have to handle about 114% more incidents than their 1971 counterparts. In simplest terms, I think we should have 957 uniformed patrol officers (114% more) on the street today and responding to calls for service. Most of those officers should be in two-officer cars. Under

my suggested standard, that would be 1.63 uniformed officers responding to calls for every 1,000 people in the population. The current population of Seattle is 586,200. The Mayor wants an additional 350,000 residents by 2040. That is a population increase of 60%. If that many more people make the bad decision to move into Seattle, I think we need 1,531 uniformed patrol officers (60% more) responding to calls for service in the year 2040. Most of those officers should be in two-officer cars. Do you think the politicians would faint at these numbers? Look at the staffing figures below to see how they are doing. Of course, if additional officers were going to be beneficial, they would need leadership at all levels equal to, or better than, what we had in 1971.

I have been studying the 2006 SPD Annual Report. It is much less informative than previous Annual Reports. The more I study it, the more confused I get. There is no easy way to glean meaningful information from it. For instance, in 2005 we had 9,558 Auto Thefts, and there were 9,945 Auto Theft calls dispatched. Apparently 387 (3.9%) of the dispatched calls were not really Auto Thefts. In 2006 we are said to have had 8,138 Auto Thefts, but there were 9,961 Auto Theft calls dispatched. Were 1,823 (18.3%) of those dispatched calls not really Auto Thefts? In 2006 there were 23,911 Thefts, but only 12,451 Theft calls dispatched. Even if every call handled by TRU was a Theft, it still does not compute. In 2006 there were 2,322 Aggravated Assaults, but there were

7,470 Assault calls dispatched...lots of Assaults that did not qualify as Aggravated. It's confusing at best.

You have probably read the latest SPD Report to the Community. Wow! Rapes, Aggravated Assaults, Burglaries, and Auto Thefts are all down by double-digit percentages compared to the first 6 months of 2006. In fact, the only crime in Seattle that hasn't gone down is Theft, and that has only increased by 0.7%. Violent crime is down 14%. That makes me wonder where the local media gets its information on all the daily shootings around here. And when adjusted for population, serious crime is at a 1972 level. %\$## *&!@. I am now convinced that we have hired a bean counter formerly employed by Enron. If it sounds too good to be true... One figure not mentioned in the report is the 54% increase in the number of police officers killed in the line of duty in the United States compared to this same time last year.

Here are the latest staffing figures. The net staffing change since January 2005 is +21. Due to an inexcusable arithmetic error, I under-reported this number in the September *Guardian*. The net staffing change since January 2007 has fallen to a +2, which shows an increase of 0.22 officers per month over the last 10 months. At that rate the last of the last of the new officers will be on board in the early part of 2058. That means that many of them will not even be born until sometime in the 2030's.

Be safe out there.

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Paper or Policing?

By Officer Nick Bowns, North Precinct

You can’t have it both ways. Are we at the POINT of NO RETURN regarding Directive D07-047 and the SPIDER report formats? Do we as a Police Department, really understand the consequences of what we are doing? Do we really want to do this? This is a “Patrol” biased article.

For any given task in life I’ve learned to always ask, “What is the point or purpose of what I am doing or about to do?” You’d better have a good answer to that question or you’re probably wasting your time, effort, and career. The “Point of No Return” is an aviation reference. When you hit half of your gas you must decide, GO ON OR GO BACK. I once violated that principle. I took off in Korea to get from the West Coast to the East coast and back, believing that the weather and gas would hold. It didn’t. Now, I’m halfway back and in big trouble because I’m above the clouds (and not on an instrument flight plan). I don’t have enough gas to make an instrumented airfield nor time to file an “in flight” instrument flight plan. There was plenty going on in the cockpit, trust me. It was that “AHHHH S_____” moment. I’m toast. So I turn north toward North Korea (very bad if you cross the DMZ) having found a small Republic of Korea (ROK) airfield on the map. The engine surges, we get a break in the clouds, and we grease it onto that ROK airfield where we negotiate for some gas. We had passed that “point of no return” and it wasn’t funny. I limp home and only my co-pilot and I know how close we came. Now, you know.

For each of the 439 patrol officers (daily shagging the 911 calls) in this Department, there is a story just like mine. We know how to police this town. That was the point of the story. At 0001 hours on October 14, 2007, did we cross the Point of No Return? Whatever you knew about patrol, regardless of your current job, title, rank, or duty, you don’t know now. The transition to the SPIDER report format hit at 0001, October 14, 2007. Paper is only a spin-off of the time required to collect and input the data. Is this truly what the Department wants? If so, we can do it, so long as we understand the consequences.

Directive D 07-047 requires me to complete a thorough primary investigation. It requires that I shall take statements from all victims, witnesses, and suspects when possible, for all incidents involving arrests, anticipated arrests, or likely prosecution. It recommends that I include Objection to Release on Booking Sheets and also document why a statement (if not taken) was not taken in the General Offense Report. Supervisors are then directed to review reports for compliance and have Lieutenants review supervisors for compliance.

The SPIDER Report Format requires that I document (in excruciating detail) all evidence on an ESR. Complete a separate page of information for every vehicle, all property items, witness, complainant, person of interest, third party subject, victim, suspect, and institution for each and every incident (remember we have about 600,000 calls a year). Then correlate how each, by number, is associated with each other. List all crimes associated with the incident, correlate all that, and then write an incident report. Then, add Vehicle Processing sheets, Found Property reports, DV Supplemental, Statements both witness, victim, suspect, and officers, Missing Person reports, Sketches, and Booking Sheets, if applicable as addendums, to that General Offense report.

We can do that. There is nothing wrong with the spirit and intent of Directive D 07-047; its good police procedure. In fact, in a few years, when KCJ processes only Felony bookings, our misdemeanor investigative reports (Filed by Officer – FBO), and the detail work we put into them, becomes that much more important. There is nothing wrong with the spirit and intent of SPIDER report format. If we fail to input the data, the whole point of the form is worthless. We wouldn’t sign up for a worthless form, therefore, it must be important to input all available data conscientiously and in detail. OK, patrol, let’s do it. In fact, it’s our responsibility to do it as directed.

What is the Point? Is this what my department really wants me to do? (They don’t mean this is just paperwork, *wink-wink*, we really want you out there doing police work, knocking down the calls, answering the 911 complaints on a timely basis, making your own decisions, prioritizing what really needs to be done). If that’s the case then:

1. We need more Polaroid and 35 MM cameras in the cars.
2. We need more computer terminals in the precincts, as officers will be stacked up waiting to get to a computer.
3. We need a lot more paper.
4. We need more brief cases.
5. We need more archive space
6. We need photocopiers that don’t break down.
7. We can’t afford for RMS or CAD to go down.
8. As hard bar sergeants review and will review all the details of these reports, especially when electronically transmitted, the days of a “Hey You” sergeant are over.
9. PEO’s, we may not be there to back you up, if required.
10. Dispatch, we can’t drop paper anymore. There won’t be as many of us out there either. The calls will stack up, shift to shift.
11. Put a paper call in handled, take another, and you’re done for the shift.

12. Data clerks, sorry, we just became you.
13. No officer is going to take a “check and advise” any more because there aren’t any backing officers available.
14. Can’t take that last minute shift call anymore, without accepting overtime.
15. Oh yeah, there is going to be a lot more OT needed.
16. Average call time just increased by 500%, per officer, if done conscientiously, as directed. Overtime, as we get better at this, that might go down to about 300%.

17. On Views, Warrants, SODA, and SOAP arrests are going way down.
18. What happens when we’re all in the precinct on paper and get that “Help” call?
19. ACT units. Dope arrest, done for the night.
20. Buy Busts and John Stings; you figure it out.
21. That big “Goat Screw” call is going to stop an entire sector for the night.
22. Major disturbance call where everyone’s a suspect, no real victims, for which there will no prosecution (You know that old two line 245C), now, a shift killer. And, by the way, we need about two times as many officers. Of course, the citizens get screwed. But, we can do this. What’s the Point?

If we apply Directive D 07-047 as written, the calls will stack up. You can’t ask us to also clear all the calls. I’m thinking ahead to Neighborhood Policing, where the objective is reduced call response time. There aren’t enough officers in patrol to do both tasks. You can have it one way or the other, but not both (that is a big “BUT”). We know how to police this town. We’ll do what you want. If you want Directive D 07-047 and SPIDER, we’ll do it. If you want the calls handled, we’ll do that If you want both, done conscientiously, we don’t have enough officers! You can’t have it both ways.

There is one Chief, two Deputy Chiefs, five Assistant Chiefs, twelve Bureau Captains, and five Precinct Captains....that’s 25. I’ll take the Chief. Come ride with me. You act as the primary investigator and do the paperwork. Let’s have patrol officers volunteer, throughout the Department, to take the Captains and Chiefs on a Ride-A-Long and apply Directive D 07-047 and SPIDER report forms to an incident you are investigating. I’d like to be at the Chief’s meeting, on the day after all the Ride-A-Longs, when he asks “Who the _____ came up with this _____? Why are the calls stacking up?” Or we could wait for those listed above to call us and ask for a “Ride-A-Long” for training and professional development purposes. Is this what you want us to do? Patrol officers shouldn’t be

caught at that “Point of No Return” every day when we come to work. It seems to me we are at that “Point of No Return” where either the “Paper” pushes the policing or the “Policing” pushes the paper. As cops, I know we’ll figure out how to make it work and take care of each other despite the Directives and Report Forms. I’m willing to keep the jury out on this until after the Ride-A-Longs.

We need to determine “What is SPD’s real point and purpose in terms of call response and how are we really going to accomplish our given mission?” As patrol officers, we will do what we are directed to do. Right now, I’m not sure the Department really appreciates the situation. We need to get this right, or we’re all going to have that collective “AHHHH S _ _ _” moment. And trust me, we don’t want to be there.

There is a viable and scary solution to all of this. The givens are that we have a Department of 1200. It’s not really going to get better in the near future as we’re moving towards Neighborhood Policing and its intended objectives, squad integrity is going to suffer, the citizens deserve a reasonable response time, the calls need to be handled, primary investigations are becoming more important (FBO), KCJ is moving towards Felony Bookings only, and SPIDER is here to stay. The structure of a Police Department should look like a pyramid, patrol at the base. A few years back that flipped, an inverted pyramid, with more officers out of patrol than in patrol. Restore that pyramid. Restructure this entire Department. Put 800 officers in patrol and 400 above that base. Then, you can have it “all- ways”. Is there a real alternative?



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SPOG Elections are Here

Positions open are: President, Secretary-Treasurer, Position 2, Position 4, Position 6, Position 8, and Position 10.

Nominations open on **November 21st at 0800** and end on **December 19th at 1600**. Call the Guild Office for more information 206-767-1150

NOMINATIONS OPEN

President, Secretary-Treasurer and Even Board Positions
Nominations Open November 21st at 0800 Hours
Nominations Close December 19th at 1600 Hours

Photo and 250 word message must be submitted by close of nominations
Contact the Guild at 767-1150 for more information

SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOMINATION FORM

Date_____

We, the undersigned, nominate _____ for the position of _____ (President, Position #2, etc.) of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

Nominee Signature_____

To Our Police Family

By Eileen Springer

On August 6, 2007 we suffered a great loss when my husband, Tom Springer, Amy, Kym and Andy’s dad, one of your fellow officers and friend, was tragically taken from all of us in a motorcycle accident. He was on his return home from the Vietnam Dog Handler K-9 Reunion in Durango, CO.

On that Monday in the late afternoon several members of the police family were there to notify and comfort us in our shocked and immobilized states. Instantly we knew we would get through everything with the comfort and support. So many of you were involved in all the planning and coordinating of all the details of Tom’s Memorial Service making it so special and memorable. Tom was completely honored by you, his family, friends, and fellow officers.

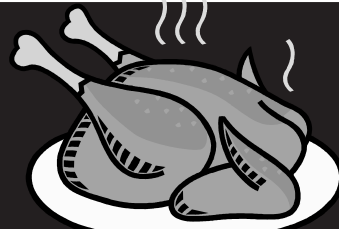
Tom often talked about the preparation of a motorcade escort. While still on bikes Tom enjoyed riding in the escorts, later after his last accident when he retuned to a traffic car, he delighted in being the tail car in an escort. The site of all those motorcycles from Seattle, Washington State Patrol, King County, Snohomish County, Des Moines, and SeaTac was truly and awesome site. As the motorcade moved on we could feel the energy Tom always spoke of and the pride he felt being part of an escort. That day he rode for the last time in a motorcade that honored him.

We want to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of our hearts for all the prayers, love and care we received. You all did Tommy proud on our most difficult day of days.

We are comforted to know that God wanted Tom home with Him. Tom is now sworn in God’s Heavenly force serving the throne of God has he served the city of men. Tommy died doing what he loved doing most. He rode with pride.

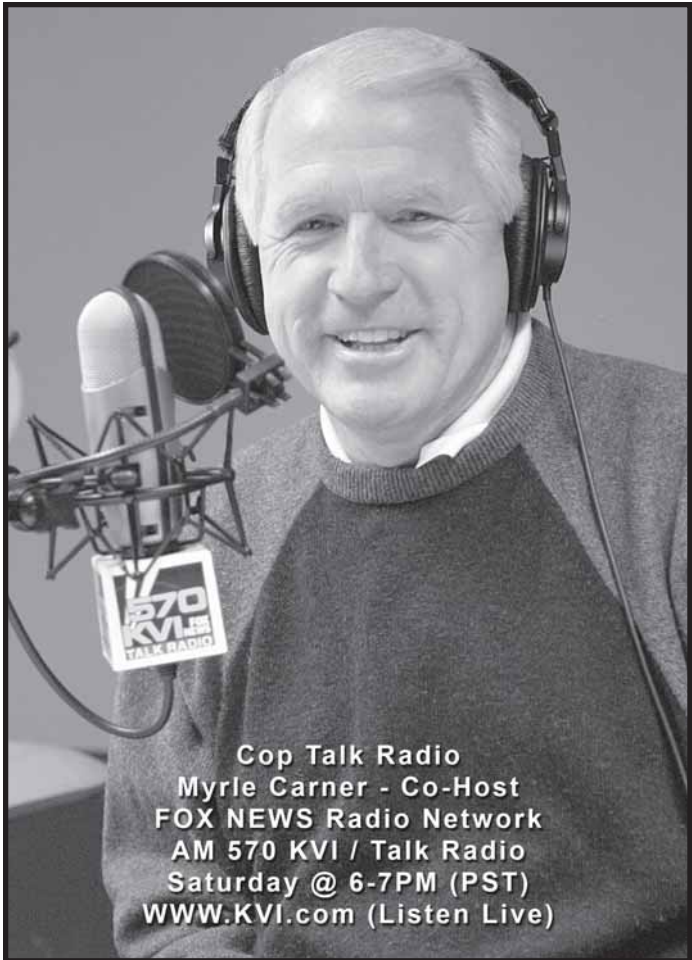
We respect the jobs that you do out there everyday in the city. We can never thank you enough for all that you do. You will always be in our hearts and prayers.

Sincerely, Eileen, Amy, Kym and Andy Springer



The SPOG Board and Staff wish you and your family a

Happy Thanksgiving



Cop Talk Radio
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WWW.KVI.com (Listen Live)



Happy Anniversary

The Guardian Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG members during the month of November!

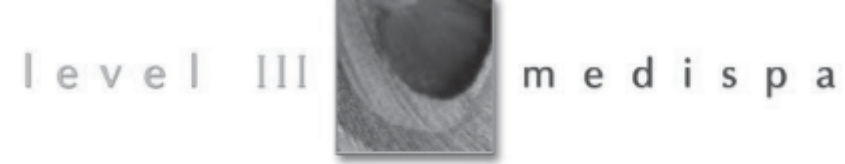
25 years of Service

Sergeant William Robertson, West Precinct
Detective Dane Beane, Polygraph

10 years of Service

Officer Jim Patchen, Southwest Precinct





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LEOFF II--About to Retire?

By Jerry Taylor, President, Retired Seattle Police Officers Association



Welcome to the ranks of the Retired Seattle Police Officers. As you walk out the door you will be presented with a retired ID card, a SPD Retired badge and a “Thank you for your service”. You will get to make a lot of decisions about health insurance, finances and more. Then you are gone and there is no way to keep track of those lifelong friends and associates you built over the years. There is no place in the Department or City where you can get advice or answers to questions. Being retired you are not even in the Guild anymore. Your only remaining connection is with the Department of Retirement Systems in Olympia. They are mostly good folks but provide little in the way of resources and no connection back to SPD.

That is where the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association (RSPOA) comes in to play.

Members of the RSPOA pay \$12/ year for membership. For that they get monthly luncheon meetings, the annual retired officers’ banquet dinner and our quarterly newsletter, *The Call Box*. RSPOA members even receive *The Guardian*.

But wait, there is more! We maintain an active email notification program to and a web site so the members can stay up to date on friends and associates as well as what is going on in Olympia with your pension system. We work with and stay in contact with the Guild and informal groups like RAP and the Old Blue Clan.

Unless you win the lottery or are a very astute investor you will probably count your pension as the major financial element in your retirement. However, the Legislature likes to “tweak” that pension on a regular basis. Right now LEOFF II members have some strong organizations that are working to protect and improve

that system. But, they are union based and active member based organizations. The RSPOA tracks pension legislation, works with the advocacy groups and keep its members current on things that can impact their pension.

Finally, and as simple as it sounds, the RSPOA serves as a social venue to keep you in touch will all of those folks you worked with over the years of your career. New members are always amazed at the importance of this function and how rewarding it is to see these old faces from time to time.

Right now most of us in the RSPOA are LEOFF I but we have reached that point in time when LEOFF II members have started to retire. Our organization is poised to shift its focus to deal with the new issues confronting our LEOFF II members. We have always been blessed with a Pension Board and Pension Office that could answer our questions and help keep us together. LEOFF II members do not have that resource. Hence it is doubly important RSPOA fills the gap.

As you prepare to retire it is also time to join the RSPOA. For more information call or write Nick Bulpin (425.349.5373 – bulpin@comcast.net) or Jerry Taylor (206.418.6331 – gtaylor@lineangle.com). We will answer your questions and help you get signed up.

We also urge you to spend a few moments with Mike Germann in the Pension Office before your complete the retirement process. Mike is extremely knowledgeable about the issues facing retired officers. He has graciously agreed to provide any help he can in aiding you as you step into the retired ranks.

7th Annual SPD Foster Child Holiday Program

Once again the Seattle Police Department is pleased to participate in the DSHS Division of Children and Family Services gift-giving program this holiday season, by sponsoring children in foster care in the City of Seattle. Many of these children have never had a Christmas before.

This year we will accept “Wish Lists” from 325 children associated with DSHS program.

This is how SPD employees can help: Beginning Nov 19th the “Wish List” displays will be set up throughout the Department.

- Select a child to sponsor by removing the “Wish List” for the child you choose
- Fill out the sign up sheet at the display
- Purchase gifts
- Wrap the gifts (following instructions on the “Wish List”)
- Return all gifts to the display area by December 13th.

If you do not wish to sponsor a specific child, we are also happy to accept unwrapped gifts – or gift cards.

~~ NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW ~~

For the past several years, officers asked if you could also deliver gifts to the children:

I am excited to announce that this year DSHS and Chief Kerlikowske have approved having “volunteer” officers deliver the gifts we collect to the foster homes!

More information about this will be coming out in November around the time the displays are set up. Watch the NOTICES for details. I have asked Officer Eric Michl to coordinate the Volunteer SPD employees. Sworn and civilian employees can both help!

Each year I am touched by the generosity and giving spirits of SPD employees, you have brought many, many, smiles to some unfortunate little ones! Let’s do it again this year!

These kids need our support! Please show them we care!

If you have any questions regarding this program, contact:
Coordinator / Linda Spromberg
Communications
206-684-8637 or linda.spromberg@seattle.gov

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Thank you for your cooperation during the SPOG cell phone program migration process with Verizon Wireless. We are in the final phase of closing out the program. At this time, you should have received notification from SPOG of whether you hold a cell phone deposit. According to our records, everyone eligible has been refunded their deposit at this time. If you have not been contacted about a deposit and believe you may be eligible, please contact the SPOG Office at (206) 767-1150. The cell phone program will officially expire on 12/31/07 and deposits will no longer be available after this expiration date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Retired News

By Mike Germann

New Retirement

There’s one new LEOFF II retirement to publish this month:

- o **William E. Edwards**, #4230, Seattle Police Lieutenant, retired at the close of business October 16, 2007, with 28 years of sworn service.

Bill Edwards, also known as “The Wire,” is truly unforgettable. Not many Seattle Police Officers, past or present, can measure up to this man. To say he’s one of the very best that the Seattle Police Department has ever produced is not an understatement.

He’s not going that far away in retirement. Bill has accepted a non-sworn manager’s position with the Seattle Police Department.

We wish him and his family all the best in retirement and in his new position. A good old fashioned “Retirement Party” was held on October 13, 2007 at the Seattle Police Athletic Association’s Pavilion at the Range.

Retired Seattle Police Officers’ Association News

**RETIRED SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the October Meeting
October 10, 2007**

President Jerry Taylor called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm in the dining room of the Four Seas restaurant located at 8th S. and King Street. Mike Crist led the Pledge of Allegiance. Taylor conducted a roll call of officers with Paul Peterson, Mike Slessman, John Sullivan, Dick Rovig, and Nick Bulpin being present with Pat Munter and LaVelle Thresher absent.

Nick Bulpin gave the financial report and a motion was made by Ted Fonis to accept the report, seconded by Rovig and passed unanimously.

President Taylor acknowledged John Pedersen as a first time attendee. Taylor then asked for a moment of silence for Earl Wymore and Glen Gilbert who recently passed away.

Howard Monta reported the RAP Christmas luncheon is scheduled for December 15th from noon to four with a salmon or beef buffet and two drinks for \$25.00. Monta then asked to RSVP to either himself or John Guich. Taylor then pointed out today is Monta’s birthday. Paul Peterson reported the 100 year birthday party for Ralph Zottman held October 6th was a great success and thanked those who were in attendance.

John Sullivan reported Bill Baughman, Jerry Beem, Neil Hinton, Dick Steiner and Bob Burrell are all in seriously failing health. No visitors at this time except for Steiner.

President Taylor then introduced guest speaker, Joe Fischnaller, a former Kittitas County Deputy turned lawyer. Fischnaller has for years, successfully represented many officers and fire fighters across the state with disability retirements and LEOFF issues. Taylor presented Joe with an honorary RSPOA membership badge and turned the meeting over to him. Mr. Fischnaller presented copies of the Governor’s Medical Study Report. The copies were made available by the LEOFF 1 Coalition. He then went over some of the provisions contained in the report that is to be reviewed in 2008 by a panel/committee formed by the Governor to include the

Washington Director of Retirement Systems and the State Health Care Authority. They will form the groundwork for further study and pose questions for the 2008 panel. Joe cautioned this panel will have to be closely scrutinized for potential take-aways of medical benefits and services along with non-payment by employers. He explained the difference in pension funding for a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. His concerns included LEOFF 1 members being required to pay insurance premiums or part “B” Medicare costs. Joe thanked everyone for the opportunity to join in the luncheon and was warmly applauded.

There being no further business, Nick Bulpin made a motion to adjourn at 12:50 and another great lunch was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted, Nick Bulpin, Secretary/
Treasurer

A quick recap of the 64th Retired Officers’ Banquet held on September 10, 2007:
About 400 retired Seattle Police Officers’ and their guests had a great time together.
Spotted in the crowd were:

- o Chief Gil Kerlikowske
- o Deputy Chief John Diaz
- o Police Guild President Rich O’Neill
- o Retired Officers’ Association President Jerry Taylor
- o Relief Association President Mark Kuehn
- o Athletic Association President Buzzy Katzer

- and -

The following retirees were there:

- o retired Chief Pat Fitzsimons and his wife Olga
- o The Skagens, Roy and Noreen

plus about 400 others we don’t have space to mention.

By lowest serial number:
#636 – Paul Dyson was present
#794 – Gordon Price was present

Plus all those active, retired and staff who put the whole thing together.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!

RAP Holiday Luncheon
Saturday, December 15, 2007
Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Lake City Elks, located at NE 145th and Lake City Way NE
\$25 per person
Social hour will be from Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Buffet menu will include prime rib and salmon.
Please **RSVP-ASAP** to John Guich at guichj@comcast.net or (206)290-0649 to help him determine which dining room RAP will need.

Police Pension Office Succession Planning
SERIOUS BUSINESS! Within the next several months, around year-end, you’re going to start noticing some changes at your Seattle Police Pension Office. First of all:

JOHN PATRICK SULLIVAN
IS PLANNING TO RETIRE
FOR GOOD AT YEAR-END

After that happens, both Elaine Danielson, who handles pensions, etc. and Mike Germann, the Pension Board’s Executive Secretary, are both making plans to retire from the Police Pension Office in the not-to-distant future. This will mean a complete staff turnover within the next several years in the Pension Office.

Your Police Pension Board has discussed and planned for what’s to come.

Replacing John Sullivan at the Police Pension Medical Claims Desk will be a veteran of twenty plus years on the Pension Board, TOM GRABICKI. Tom and John will be working together for two months so that Tom can learn John’s job. He’ll be starting the middle of November 2007. So, what can you (the retired officer) do to help?

- o Be patient
- o Submit your bills and claims in a timely fashion to the Pension Office.

Call John’s telephone number (206) 386-1287 if you have problems or questions.

Finally, John says “no retirement parties” or anything like that. He just wants to quietly retire from the job he’s held for some 17 years.

But, you may want to call John and thank him for the outstanding job he’s done for all of you over the years.

Pension Board Vacancy to be Filled by Dan Oliver
When Tom Grabicki begins work in the Police Pension Office on November 14, 2007, he will need to resign from his “trustee” position on the Pension Board to avoid any conflict of interest. The Board of Trustees has discussed who should fill the vacant Police Pension Board trustee position and has asked Dan Oliver, an active duty Seattle Police Captain and President of the Seattle Police Management Association (bargaining unit for Lieutenants and Captains) if he would be interested in being on the Police Pension Board. Dan’s agreed to serve in Tom’s former Board position.
Why did the Board choose Dan Oliver? His reputation of sticking up for Seattle Police Officers, both active and retired, is legendary. Enough said.

New Premera Blue Cross Cards to Issue
Those under age 65 Police Pension members currently on medical benefits with Premera Blue Cross will be receiving new medical cards, along with a letter explaining why. This will take place around year-end. There are no changes of medical benefits.
The only thing you may notice is that a different prefix will be on the new Blue Cross cards. The new prefix will be “PQF.” This is an administrative matter for faster medical claims processing and the individual member need not be concerned with it. So when your new medical card arrives, get rid of your old Blue Cross card and use the new card exclusively.

Any questions about his, call Mike Germann in the Pension Office at (206) 386-1289.

November 2007 Retirees' Birthdays

Numbers in parenthesis () indicate November birth date.

James E. Armstrong Jr. (4), Robert C. Avery (9), Joseph V. Ayco (23), Michael D. Balser (3), Margueritte Barker (1), Gerald W. Barmann (1), William O. Bartlett (18), George H. Bechtel (14), Daniel J. Beste (20), Edward C. Burkhart (23), Robert C. Burrell (4), Steven G. Butler (15), Dan L. Cameron (15), Barbara Joan Clancy (18), Marie J. Clinton (9), John W. Coddington (2), James A. Colby (12), Joseph B. Corbett, Jr (25), Kenneth W. Crow (30), Mickie Lee Debladuell (24), Dennis A. Delorm (26), David F. Devine (18), Emil Drovetto (27), Paul W. Dyson (13), Bruce L. Edmonds (25), Robert D. Elwell (15), Lawrence H. Erickson (30), Elsie P. Faires (5), Ivan D. Feilberg (5), Harold N. Fogus (11), Gary L. Gann (26), E. Lawrence Gordon (30), Theodore J. Gormley (15), William F. Green (16), Thomas E. Guthmiller (5), Vincent H. Hanson (25), Donald O. Hartwig (14), David C. Harvey (30), Robert A. Hawk (23), Shirley Helderop (11), Richard D. Hume (7), Gene C. Hunt (12), Joanne D. Hunt (7), Janet Jacobson (23), Kenneth R. Jakobsen (16), Marilyn Kay Jarvis (22), Raymond L. Johnson (23), Beverly J. Kearney (28), Emmett H. Kelsie (4), Susan L. Kirkland (24), Gary D. Kunkel (4), Robert E. Lee (22), Lucille J. Leidinger (21), Ewald D. Lindloff (15), Gary C. Lysne (24), David V. Malland (18), Gerald D. Martin (14), Bernard V. Mayhle (11), Zelfphine J. McAlvey (30), William L. McConnell (7), Jeanne E. McLaughlin (12), Vera Meyer (5), Robert L. Moffett (25), Harold M. Nelson (7), Ruth A. Nelson (8), Richard A. Niemiec (5), Jack G. Nuckolls (29), Marjorie Ann Pakka (24), Kathleen Kosai Peterson (12), Albert W. Rasmussen (19), Lawrence J. Rayburn (27), David E. Rogge (13), Gayle L. Sackett (23), N. Richard Sanford (3), Charles Scheuffele (13), Barry J. Schoengarth (17), Richard M. Schweitzer (29), Daine R. Smallwood (16), David J. Smoots (5), Kay L. Spurlock-Potter (20), Donna J. Stockham (2), Edwin L. Stovall (20), John L. Sullivan (22), Thomas C. Sutton (26), Dale F. Tallman (20), Leona L. Taylor (12), Lavelle W. Thresher (17), Bonnie Varney (14), James E. Vaughan (16), Gary L. Veatch (11), Charlotte Voyles (21), David L. Waltier (16), James K. Yoshida (6)

While we're on the subject of birthdays and other special occasions, we want to note: Retired Patrolman Chester W. "Chet" Johnson, #343, who served from 1936 until 1961, and his lovely wife Doris will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on January 29, 2008 and Chet will be celebrating his 100th birthday coming up on April 9, 2008. Our best wishes to a wonderful couple on these milestones in their lives.

Last Ring



Earl W. Wymore, #362, retired Seattle Police "Patrolman" passed away peacefully at his home in Bothell on September 26, 2007. He was 97 years of age and **the last surviving member of Seattle Police Academy Class #1.**

Earl was born on July 20, 1910 in Nebraska. His family relocated to Ballard when he was young. He graduated from Ballard High School with the Class of 1929 and played football with the varsity team during his senior year, one of his fondest memories. Earl Wymore was appointed a "Patrolman" of the Seattle Police Department on September 29, 1937 and served with distinction as a uniformed beat officer for 26 years, retiring on September 15, 1963. Off duty, he was a devoted husband and father. He enjoyed fishing, camping and hiking with family and friends.

A funeral mass, preceded by rosary recitation, was held on October 2, 2007, at St. Brendan Church, Bothell. Earl was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Dolores, and a daughter, Nancy. Surviving are a daughter, Jerilynn, a son, Steve and eleven grandchildren. A grandson and his wife are both police officers, one with Lynnwood and the other with Bellevue. Earl Wymore's death marks the passing of an era for Seattle Police.



Glen L. Gilberts, #1456, retired Seattle Police Department "Patrolman," passed away on September 29, 2007, while a resident of the Foss Home in North Seattle. He was 78 years of age upon his death. Glen was born on January 18, 1929. He was appointed a "Patrolman" of the Seattle Police Department on January 26, 1953 and retired with 30 years of sworn service on July 12, 1983. Glen is best remembered for his long tenure as the 3rd Watch Patrol Desk Officer at the North Precinct. His specialty was "critters." Any time a resident of the North End or just about any place in the City of Seattle had a problem with critters such, as raccoons or opossums, they called Glen at the North Precinct. He would take care of their problem. This may not sound like much, but for the folks concerned, Glen Gilberts was the answer to their cries for help.

Surviving is his wife of 50 years, Valerie, or "Val" as she is called, a son, Wayne, a daughter Nancy, two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

A time of remembrance was held on October 28, 2007, at the Ballard Masonic Lodge.



May they all rest in peace.

Important Date!!!!
SPOG Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 28th
at 2000 hours
Complimentary Dinner All Members Welcome

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Direct Line 206-919-1519

Mary@maryhometeam.com www.maryhometeam.com

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Photos of the 2007 Retired Officer's Banquet are now available on-line. Simply go to dotphoto.com and enter user name Retired Ofc Banquet and password retired. The slickest way to view the photos is to point to the desired album and click "watch show".



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Editor's Notes

By Detective Ron Smith,Pawn Shop



A front-page headline in the October 19th *Seattle P-I* reads, “Voters asked to forgive Velazquez’s DUI arrest.” I would hope that they will look past the arrest given the recent track record of Seattle voters; pretending that their candidate actually won the Governor’s election in 2004. I suggest another headline, should the *P-I* want to speak to the scandals at City Hall, “Constituents asked to forgive accused wife choker and abuser of power.” I

find it astounding that Richard McIver is able to go back to his seat on the City Council after being charged with DV Assault, as well as the fact that David Della is allowed to work on the council with a serious ethics complaint hanging over his head after using his position on the budget committee to threaten both the SPOG President and Seattle Fire Union President. While both these men are innocent until proven guilty, they should be riding the pine until their cases are adjudicated. These men serve on a council that is quick to rush to judgment of the police, pass the laws that we enforce and have significant influence in the policies that effect how we work, yet they are allowed to go back to work as if nothing has happened. If the police are some how held to a higher standard, shouldn’t these politicians be held to an even higher one?

As you know, SPOG endorsed Ms. Velazquez for City Council with the belief that she would be a voice for us on that body. Though it is unfortunate that she allegedly was driving drunk, the alleged lack of judgment does not mean she cannot serve effectively on the council, as evidenced by it’s current make up. Furthermore, how can SPOG, as a professional labor body pull the plug on her endorsement due to her arrest, when we stand up and ask the public not to rush to judgment when one of our own is accused of misconduct or arrested? Innocent until proven guilty doesn’t change just because of someone steps in a political pile of pooh.

Congratulations to my partner, Detective Everett Edwards, as he has been named the Lynwood High School Girls basketball coach for the upcoming 2007-08 WESCO South League season! Anyone acquainted with Everett knows of his deep commitment to the athletic development of kids. He is the right man for the job!

Congratulations to Sergeant Gary Nelson and those who helped put on Ripper’s retirement party. It was a first class event, fit for a first class guy! It was nice to see some of the retired guys who showed up like John Nordlund, Drew Dowd and Bobby Hoff, as well as the fact that a deputy chief, bureau chief and several captains attended. That’s the way a SPD legend should ride off into the sunset! Good Luck Ripper!

Until next month, be safe out there! Feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions at spogguardian@yahoo.com. Please take a moment to remember those that have given all so that we can be free on Veteran’s Day. “In the beginning of a change, the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot.” -Mark Twain

Calendar of Events

Veteran’s Day (SPOG Office Closed)
Monday, November 12th

Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office
Wednesday, November 14th at 1300 hours

SPOG Elections Open
Wednesday, November 21st at 0800 hours

Thanksgiving (SPOG Office Closed Thursday & Friday)
Thursday, November 22nd

Seattle Police Officers’ Guild general membership meeting at the SPOG Office
Wednesday, November 28th at 2000 hours

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Happy Veteran’s Day!

Check it out!

Our website is now up and running. We invite you to check it out and send us any feedback or suggestions for improvement.

www.seattlepoliceguild.org

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